



# CUHP CHRONICLE

The Mirror and Voice of the

## Central University of Himachal Pradesh

[Established under the Central Universities Act 2009]

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## Editor's Desk The Enchanting Dhauladhar overlooking TAB-CUHP



### Dear Readers,

Winters have set in. The Dhauladhar mountain range in the vicinity is transforming with its first snowfall. The very sight of the snow-capped peaks with fresh snow is a splendid sight and signals the onset of winters. Another event-filled year comes to an end with the holding of the End-Semester Examinations. The syllabi of various academic programmes were completed on time. The CUHP University Court had its first meeting. Sadly, the University had to face a misfortune when one of its buses that transported students and staff

met with an accident. Our gratitude to the almighty since the commuters had a narrow escape but with bruises and external injuries. This also brought to fore the best among the CUHP fraternity. The entire University stood by the injured and the administration came forward to extend all forms of help in mobilizing the district administration and medical personnel at the Tanda Medical College to extend the best of facilities to the injured students and staff. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor assured the student community of all forms of assistance to the recuperating students. The prelude to the new semester beginning Jan. 2013 saw the joining of 18 more

regular faculty taking the total faculty strength to 66. It is heartening to mention that the faculty has an all India character as they represent 15 different states and bringing in teaching-learning experience from across 38 different higher educational institutions. The students of the School of Journalism, Mass Communication and New Media added another feather to their cap by launching the English version of the News letter titled "The Voice".

**Wish you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year !**

*arvind agrawal*

## First Meeting of the University Court Held

First meeting of the first Court of the Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP) was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chancellor Shri Arun Maira on 7th December 2012 in the Conference Hall of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi. The meeting was attended by 19 out of the 27 members that constitute the first Court of the University. Highest authority of the University under the Central Universities Act 2009, the first Court is chaired by the Chancel-

lor and has 25 members. Registrar of the University is the ex-officio Member Secretary of the Court. The University Court is vested with the power and functions to review from time to time the broad policies and programmes of the University and to suggest measures for the improvement and development of the University; to consider and pass resolutions on the annual report and the annual accounts of the University and the audit report on such accounts; to advise the Visitor in respect of any mat-

ter which may be referred to it for advice; and to perform such other functions as may be prescribed by the Statutes.



**Vice Chancellor, Prof. Furqan Qamar welcoming the Chancellor, Mr. Arun Maira**

## First Meeting of University Court

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**Hon'ble Chancellor and members of Court watching the presentation by Prof. Furqan Qamar with rapt attention**

*Learning from experience is a faculty almost never practiced.*



**Vice Chancellor addressing the University Court**

The Member-Secretary welcomed the Hon'ble Chancellor and all members of the first Court and invited the Vice Chancellor to welcome and honour the Chancellor by presenting a shawl and a cap. Being the first meeting of the first Court, Hon'ble Chancellor welcomed each member and as a token of respect presented a shawl and a cap to each one of them. Hon'ble Chancellor extended warm welcome to the members and thanked them for sparing their valuable time for attending the first meeting of the Court. He stated that he was happy to know that a composition of the Court is such that it consists of eminent educationists, academicians, senior bureaucrats and personalities from all walks of life. He hoped that the University shall immensely benefit from their rich experiences in the field of higher education. The Chancellor thereafter requested the Vice-Chancellor to briefly apprise all the members about the composition, powers and functions of the Court, and also to make a presentation on the progress made by the University so far.

The Vice-Chancellor made a comprehensive presentation giving the composition, powers and functions of the Court, the development that the university could achieve since its

establishment and the academic programmes that were launched and being run by the University.

In his presentation, the Vice Chancellor highlighted the innovative academic architecture, curricular framework, profile of the faculty and enrolment indicated the remarkable progress that the University has made in a short period of time.

He also mentioned that the University is presently operating from its temporary facilities as the land identified for the campuses of the University has not been transferred to it for want of FCA clearance and that the matter is presently under consideration of the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India.

Distinguished members appreciated the efforts made by the University with regard to academic activities, resource mobilisation and infrastructure development and complemented the Vice Chancellor and his team and faculty for making rapid strides with focussed attention and in a time bound manner. Hon'ble members held

detailed deliberations about the vision and strategic plan of the University and were highly impressed with the innovative academic architecture and curricular framework developed and implemented by the University. Members expressed their appreciation for the efforts made by the University in attracting quality faculty from all over India and with due regard to the reservation policy. Distinguished members assured that they would like to play a proactive role and shall help and advise the University in its efforts to become a premier higher educational institution of the country.

This in view, the members made very useful and precious suggestions in regard to strategic plan and academic programmes of the university including the ways and means that the university can adopt to attract and retain quality faculty

## The Teacher in Prof. Furqan Qamar .....

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Furqan Qamar apart from being a visionary and a deft administrator, who has charted the University in a fast-paced growth path is also a renowned academician and teacher par excellence. Very few persons in such key positions ever find time to address the students in the classroom delivering lectures based on the regular course curriculum.

The Ph.D. Research Scholars of the University cutting across various Schools & Departments were in for a pleasant surprise. As part of their Course Work, the second batch of research

scholars of CUHP were undergoing a course in Quantitative Research Methods. Prof. Furqan Qamar had a task cut for himself. An expert in the use of MS Excel & SPSS in his own right, Prof. Qamar started with some of the basics of research and methodology issues. He then shifted to the manner in which data is entered in Excel Sheets for the creation of databases, preparation of tables using pivot tables and using these tables for data analysis, univariate & multi-variate analysis of data and their interpretation. Lecture and demonstration methods were used.

The Dean & Head, School of Education, Dr. Arbind Jha, who had arranged for these special sessions for the Ph.D. research scholars, introduced Prof. Furqan Qamar to students on the first day with the able support of Dr. Manoj Saxena, Associate Professor, Department of Education.

The participating students enjoyed the sessions of their Vice-Chancellor who they felt was very articulate in clarifying all the concepts involved. They all felt that they would savour these moments for a long time to come. This workshop was held on 3-4 Dec. 2012.



Everyone has a will to win, but very few people have the will to prepare to win.

## Workshop on Documentary Film Making

A four-day workshop on "Understanding Visual Images and Documentary Film Making" was conducted by Prof. K.P. Jayasankar, Chairperson, Centre for Critical Media Praxis from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai at School of Journalism, Mass Communication and New Media, CUHP from 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. to 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov. 2012.

The workshop provided hands on training to the students of New Media Communication

and Journalism and Creative Writing to read images and to interpret the meanings which the visual messages are intended to convey.

During the workshop Prof. Jayasankar explained the students the various stages of film production and discussed how ideas and concepts are developed and explored for making documentaries. He engaged the students in practical assignments for writing effective

stories and treatment.

Prof. Jayasankar screened documentaries 'From the Margins', 'City's Edge' and 'Cornered City' at the workshop and taught the students how to understand dramatic structures in films.

The workshop helped the students to learn the creative process of writing stories and scripts for films and encouraged them to understand visuals with the intended perceptions.



**Prof. Jayasankar speaking on the intricacies of film-making**

## Professor Jayasankar — A Brief Profile

Prof. K. P. Jayasankar is Chairperson at the Centre for Critical Media Praxis under the School of Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.

Prof. Jayasankar is a well-known expert of Visual Media and has produced more than 100 documentary films on contemporary

social and cultural issues and was a Howard Thomas Memorial Fellow in Media Studies at Goldsmith's College, London.

Prof. Jayasankar's areas of interest are Cultural Studies, Documentary Film, Television Audiences, Critical Theory, Hermeneutics, Semiology, Advaita Vedanta, Affects and

Ideology, Censorship, Cinematography, Graphic and Web Design. He is a visiting faculty in some of the leading national & international institutions like National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad; IIT, Mumbai, and several Universities in the U.K., Finland, Norway, Malaysia, Australia and Germany.



**Professor Jayasankar**

# Newsletter 'The Voice' launched by Students of Journalism and New Media



**"The Voice" being released**

The students of MA New Media Communication and Journalism and Creative Writing launched a monthly newsletter 'The Voice' as part of their practical training on newspaper/magazine production. The newsletter was inaugurated by Prof. Yoginder S. Verma, Co-ordinator, TAB.

Prof. Verma appreciated the efforts of the students and asked them to do more such practical exercises. He told the students that Journalism is all

about collecting facts, developing news stories and presenting them in a way so that they can reach the common masses and can sensitize them about contemporary social and political issues.

The two page newsletter covers contemporary social and political issues and has specific sections on media, science and technology, sports and literature.

The lead story is based on an

interview with the Vice-Chancellor, CUHP Prof. Furqan Qamar where he discussed the current challenges of higher education with the students. He also told the students about the policy interventions in higher education and how the Central University of Himachal Pradesh is taking a lead to provide interdisciplinary quality education to the young aspiring professionals.

*"It is not enough for journalists to see themselves as mere messengers without understanding the hidden agendas of the message and the myths that surround it."*  
- John Pilger

## End-Semester Examinations Held

The End-Semester Examinations of all the departments of CUHP started as per schedule on 10th December 2012 and will end on 22nd Dec. 2012 covering a period of 13 days. The examinations are held in two shifts per day. The convenience of the examinees has also been given due consideration so that as far as possible adequate gap between two examinations is available for students

to make necessary preparations. Any issue raised by the students/faculty is given due hearing in a democratic manner.

Each department of the University plans the seating arrangement for the examinations including the allotment of faculty to act as invigilators.

As per the UGC guidelines, all examinations have a combination of 25 multiple choice ques-

tions all of which are compulsory, eight short answer questions of which the students have to attempt five, and five essay or long type questions all of which are compulsory but having internal choice. Guidelines are provided to the respective paper-setters to have a uniform spread of questions from all the units of the course.

## Job Placement of First Batch of MSW Students in Progress

The Department of Social Work which produced its first batch of Master of Social Work (MSW) students in 2012 has been making concerted efforts for the job placement of its students in NGOs and Government Projects. A total of 18 students passed out with flying colours. From time to time the students were provided with information relating to vacancies in various organisations in the states of Himachal

Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan. Paper cuttings of advertisements were displayed on the University's notice board. Intimation regarding vacancies was also sent to the alumni through email.

The department's teachers have been actively pursuing placement opportunities in leading NGOs like PRADAN, Morarka Foundation, Rajasthan Grameen Ajeevika Vikas

Parishad and the like. By Dec. 2012, the department has facilitated the placement of seven students: Sandeep in IIRD, and Anjali in Red Cross Society at Shimla; Asheet Parihar in Airtel; Aditya Parihar & Amit K. Verma in the World Bank funded Rajasthan Livelihood Mission; Mangal Singh in Pragya Foundation, Leh and Pankaj Puri at PGI, Chandigarh.



## Academics in Progress

### Fourteen Research Degree Students bag ICSSR Junior Research Fellowship

#### Department of Social Work

Bindu Rani

Jomon

#### School of Business and Management Studies

Jatinder Kaur

Sanjeev Kumar

Kamal Gupta

Avinash Rana

Gaurav Katoch

Namrita

Swati

Rishi Kant

#### School of Travel, Tourism & Hospitality Management

Arun

Amit Katoch

#### Department of Education

Rajni

Ravi

### Workshop & Lecture in School of Mathematics, Computers & Information Science

**Dr. H.P.S. Kalra**, conducted a workshop for Library & Information Science students.

**Mr. Nilabh Verma** delivered a guest lecture to students of Computer Science & Informatics.



**Dr. H.P.S. Kalra**, Head, DLIS, Panjabi University, Patiala conducted a workshop for Library & Information Science students on Content Management Software Joomla and Drupal during November 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

## More Assistant Professors join CUHP

In Nov-Dec. 2012, more Assistant Professors, totalling eighteen, have joined the Central University of Himachal Pradesh in various departments.

With this the total of Assistant Professors in the University now stands at thirty five and the academic programmes of each of the department will hence go at full steam.

The list of new faculty who joined recently are as follows:

Dr. Geetanjali Upadhyya, Sh. Chaman Lal, Sh. Ajay Kumar, Sh. Mohd. Atif in the School of Business and Management Studies; Sh. Keshav Singh Rawat in the Dept. of Computer Science and Information Technology; Dr. Ankit Tandon & Dr. Anurag Linda in the Dept. of Environmental Sciences; Sh. Hem Raj Bansal & Ms. Shaweta Nanda in the Dept. of English; Dr. Sayema Bano, Dept. of Hindi; Dr. Dimple

Patel, Dept. of Library and Information Science; Dr. Sachin Srivastava, Dept. of Mathematics; Sh. Surender Verma, Sh. Dalip Singh, Sh. Jagdish Kumar, Dr. Ayan Chatterjee, Dept. of Physics; Ms. Ambreen Jamali & Mr. Shabab Ahmad, Dept. of Social Work; and Mr. Debasis Sahoo, Dept. of Travel & Tourism.



## UGC sanctions Chair in Tribal Studies in the CUHP

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has accorded in principle sanction to institute a Chair in Tribal Studies in the Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP). While many universities have specialised centres or departments engaged in teaching and research in the area of tribal studies, there has been a need to anchor a body of knowledge around this segment

of population. A timely initiative, this will enable the University to make its intellectual contribution towards the understanding of the issues involved through specialised knowledge base, data base, knowledge pathways for addressing the development processes. To take advantage of the opportunity, the University is in the process of developing detailed proposal

for submission to the UGC. The Chair sanctioned by the UGC may provide for financial assistance to cover the expenses on the salaries of a Senior Professor, a Postdoctoral Research Associate, 2-3 Junior Research Fellowships and a few technical assistants. The Chair may also be supported with adequate library, research, contingency, travel and seminar grants.

**Mr. Nilabh Verma**, Regional Trainer Microsoft delivered a guest lecture to students of Computer Science & Informatics on 4<sup>th</sup> of December, 2012.

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**Committed to Inclusive  
Access and Excellence in  
Higher Education**

**www.cuhimachal.ac.in**

*Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP) was established under the Central Universities Act 2009 enacted by the Parliament of India. The University became functional from 20th January 2010 with Professor Furqan Qamar assuming the charge as the first and founder Vice Chancellor of the University.*

*Standing for Inclusive Access and Excellence in Higher Education, it is a multidisciplinary university. The Vision document of the University provides for seventeen different schools with five to six Departments and two to three Centres in each school. Of these eleven Schools and eighteen Departments and two Centres have been made functional.*

*The University has adopted comprehensive choice based credit system which mandates students to accumulate at least 30 percent credits from departments other than those in which they major. This makes all programmes of studies inter-disciplinary and all students study in an interdisciplinary environment. All programmes of studies are based on semester system and the University follows comprehensive continuous internal assessment and Grading System.*

*The University is to have its headquarter in Dharamshala and two distinct campuses located in Dharamshala and Dehra, both in the picturesque Kangra District of Himachal Pradesh. The land for both the campuses have been identified and allotted to the University and proposal for FCA clearance is at the advanced stages of progress. Following which, the land is likely to be transferred to the University and construction of permanent campuses shall begin.*

*In the Interim, the university has commenced its academic activities from the Temporary Academic Block (TAB) located at Shahpur in the Kangra District. The Headquarter of the University is located at Camp Office at Dharamshala.*

## Composition of the CUHP Court

**Mr. Arun Maira**, Member, Planning Commission, Chancellor of the University  
**Prof. Furqan Qamar**, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh  
**Prof. Timothy A. Gonsalves**, Director, IIT, Mandi  
**Prof. N.Satyamoorthy**, Director, IISER, Mohali  
**Prof. Sneha Bhargava**, Former Director, AIIMS  
**Prof. Kasturi Datta**, School of Environmental Sciences, JNU, New Delhi  
**Dr. B.N. Goswamy**, Art Historian & Padma Bhushan Awardee  
**Prof. Amitava Ray Chaudhari**, Palit Professor, Deptt. of Physics, University of Calcutta  
**Dr. B.L. Mungekar**, Hon'ble MP & Former Member, Planning Commission  
**Prof. Krishna Kumar**, Professor in CIET, Delhi University & Former Director, NCERT  
**Prof. A.M. Pathan**, Former Vice-Chancellor, CU Karnataka  
**Prof. Chetan Singh**, Deptt. of History, HPU, Shimla  
**Prof. Namwar Singh**, Former Professor of Hindi, JNU, New Delhi  
**Prof. Anupam Verma**, Advanced Centre for Plant Virology, Division of Plant Pathology  
**Dr. Ranbir Singh**, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University, New Delhi  
**Sh. Karan Johar**, Film Producer  
**Dr. Ram Sagar**, Director, Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences  
**Prof. A.K. Ghatak**, Former Professor, Deptt. of Physics, IIT, New Delhi  
**Prof. Anil Gupta**, Director, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun & Former Professor, IIT Kharagpur  
**Prof. Vinod Prakash Sharma**, Chair Professor in Public Health Research, Centre for Rural Development and Technology, IIT, New Delhi  
**Prof. Parth Shah**, President, Centre for Civil Society  
**Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai**, Vice-Chancellor, HPU, Shimla  
**Dr. Shyam Kumar Sharma**, Vice-Chancellor, HP Agricultural University, Palampur  
**Sh. M.K. Kaw**, Former Secretary, MHRD  
**Smt. Asha Swaroop**, Former Chief Secretary, HP  
**Sh. C.N. Dhar**, Chairman, CII-Himachal Pradesh State Council  
**Registrar of the University**, Ex-officio Member Secretary